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News Release

For Immediate Release

Art Museum to host Sounds of Summer concert Aug. 3



The Springfield Art Museum will host a free concert at its amphitheater 2-4 p.m. Saturday Aug. 3, featuring jazz group, <u>Bella Donna</u>. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets.

"The museum has been working to expand its programs and better utilize spaces like the amphitheater for performances," says Director Nick Nelson. "This concert is hopefully one of many more to come."

Bella Donna, comprised of members Liz Carney (vocals and guitar), Matt Guinn (lead guitar), Mike Williamson (bass and cornet) and B.J. Lowrance (drums), began creating music that breathes new life into the lost art of swing jazz in early 2010. Group members all grew up in the Ozarks, which adds a unique flavor to the music they play. With a seasoned bass player of many genres, subtle and refined drumming, a guitarist who lives and breathes Gypsy Jazz, and a vocalist born into a family of opera singers and folk musicians, Bella Donna creates a sound that is all their own. The group has been busy playing live shows all summer, from downtown Springfield to historic Eureka Springs. They will begin recording their first album this fall.

The museum will be open before and after the concert. The concert will be canceled in the event of inclement weather.

Admission to the Springfield Art Museum is free. The Springfield Art Museum is located at 1111 E. Brookside Drive. For more information, call 417-837-5700 or visit www.springfieldmo.gov/art. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Thursdays; 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays; and 1-5 p.m., Sundays. The museum is closed on Mondays and on national holidays.

For more information, contact Director Nick Nelson, nnelson@springfieldmo.gov, at 417-837-5700.